

# This week's big news



#### Russia recruits troops



On September 28, Russian President Vladimir Putin said Russia would force people into military duty against Ukraine. Russian citizens responded with widespread anger and protests across the country. Hundreds of thousands of men fled Russia to avoid service, lining up at the borders of neighboring countries.

# Shift in the war in Ukraine

Ore than eight months after Russia invaded Ukraine, the war has entered a new phase. The Ukrainian army has regained more than 1,200 square miles of land, while Russia is reportedly struggling to maintain its grip on other areas.

#### What is happening?

In October, Russian President Vladimir Putin claimed that four regions—Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, and Luhansk—belonged to Russia and put its military in charge of them. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and other world leaders condemned the move as a violation

of international law. In particular, Russia claims it is firmly in control of the key region of Kherson, but Ukraine says that control is weakening and its forces are poised to take back the area.

#### What is the war about?

Putin says that Ukraine is part of Russia and not an independent country. Both nations were part of the Soviet Union (a group of 15 countries run by Russia) from 1922 to 1991.

As the Soviet Union collapsed, Ukraine declared its independence. But Putin said he considers the two nations to be "one people—a single whole."

He also said Ukraine is too close with the US and European countries, which he considers Russia's rivals. The war has resulted in thousands of deaths and caused more than 7 million Ukrainians to leave the country, creating the largest refugee crisis since World War II (1939–1945).

#### How have leaders reacted?

Russia

Belarus

Ukraine continues to seek admission into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO, a military alliance of 30 countries), which would strengthen its position against Russia. The United Nations

(a group of 193 nations working for peace and cooperation) condemned Russia's illegal claims on Ukrainian land.

While Russia continues to state that it will accomplish its goals, many world leaders say the country lacks enough soldiers and weapons.
Artis Pabriks, defense minister of nearby Latvia, said, "I doubt that Russians are at this moment capable of opening another front line against Ukraine,

at least not a successful front."

#### What is the status of peace talks?

Nations that could help broker peace between Russia and Ukraine include the US, Turkey, and France. Russia's foreign minister, Sergei Lavrov, said that Russia was willing to participate in talks with Turkey or the US. But Putin later said he feels "no need" to talk with President Joe Biden, and the White House said the US could not engage in peace talks if Russia was still attacking Ukraine. Putin and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan spoke on October 13 but made no progress. On October 23, French President Emmanuel Macron said Ukraine will decide when to discuss peace with Russia.

#### What will happen next?

As The Week Junior went to press, reports confirmed that Russian leadership in Kherson was crumbling. Russia was amassing thousands of troops in nearby Belarus, raising the possibility of another invasion. But officials doubted that Russia was serious about another attack. Russia has also destroyed parts of Ukraine's electrical power grid, leaving many Ukrainians facing the possibility of winter without light or heat. Zelensky called on citizens to conserve energy and asked allied nations for winter supplies for soldiers. The US, Canada, Bulgaria, and other countries are sending thousands of hats, jackets, gloves, and more coldweather gear. Meanwhile, a new survey found that 86% of Ukrainians want to continue the fight against the invading country.

# Change in UK's top leadership

On October 20, UK prime minister (similar to a president) Liz Truss announced her resignation after 44 days in office. Rishi Sunak took over the top job on October 25, making him the UK's third prime minister in seven weeks.

Truss, age 47, took office on September 6, replacing Boris Johnson as head of the Conservative Party. In the UK, citizens don't vote for the prime minister directly. Instead, the political party with the most members in Parliament (similar to Congress) gets to choose a party leader, who becomes prime minister. During her short term, Truss proposed unpopular economic policies to fight rising costs in the UK. This caused the economy to suffer, which resulted in her party calling for her resignation.

Sunak, age 42, is of Indian descent and the first person of color and first Hindu person to be prime minister in British history. He was previously the chief financial minister in Johnson's administration. Sunak nearly became prime minister in September but narrowly lost out to Truss.

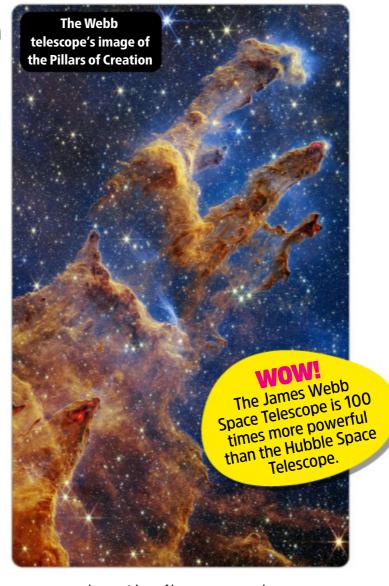


# New image from space

The James Webb Space Telescope has unveiled a new image depicting the "Pillars of Creation." These are large columns of gas and dust where new stars often form. They are situated in a part of space called the Eagle Nebula, which is in the Milky Way galaxy, about 6,500 light years away. Launched in December 2021, the Webb telescope is operated by NASA (the US space agency) and partners, and it is the most powerful telescope ever put into space.

The first image of the Pillars of Creation was captured by NASA's Hubble Space Telescope in 1995. In that image, they appear largely as solid columns, with little to be seen beyond gas and dust. In the Webb image, the pillars are slightly transparent, allowing for much more detail. The Webb was able to capture this by looking past some of the dust in the pillars using infrared light (a type of light that is invisible to the human eye).

The new image is dotted with tiny yellow and blue stars. At the edges of the pillars, tiny red orbs are visible. These are stars that are only a few hundred thousand years old, which makes them babies compared to other stars that are billions of years old. Wavy red lines are material that shot out of young stars. NASA says that this new, more detailed image will help scientists



get a better idea of how many newborn stars there are, as well as how much gas and dust are present. This data could help scientists develop a better understanding of how new stars form.

"One of Hubble's most iconic shots now has a complementary companion," the Hubble team wrote on Twitter. The Webb team responded to Hubble, saying, "A good friend points the way. Thanks for showing us the sights."



# IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

#### A YOUNG CHESS CHAMP

An Indian teen is now the youngest person ever to beat world chess champion Magnus Carlsen. Donnarumma Gukesh, 16, defeated Carlsen at the Aimchess Rapid tournament. "I look forward to further games," Gukesh said.





#### **REVEALING A NAME**

Sesame Street fans were in for a fun surprise when Cookie Monster revealed his real name on social media. "Did you know me name is Sid?" he wrote. "But me still like to be called Cookie Monster." He has said the name before, but few fans knew it. "Sid is a cool name!" one replied.

#### **HISTORIC POINTS**

Bella Rasmussen has just made football history. The Laguna Beach High School senior became the first female player in California to score two touchdowns in a varsity game, helping her team achieve a 48–0 win. "I had no idea that was such a big deal," she said. "I felt that I had just played a great game with some of my favorite people."





#### Ads on social media



In a study of social media platforms, TikTok failed to stop 90% of ads that made false statements about the election. YouTube was best able to detect and remove fake ads. People who view political ads on TikTok should first try to verify whether the content is true before believing it, the study said.

# Interest strong for midterm elections

aces are heating up as political candidates try Kto get people to vote for them in the midterm election on November 8. A midterm is the election held halfway through a President's four-year term. Early voting has begun, and voter interest is high.

#### What is happening?

All 435 seats in the House of Representatives (one branch of Congress, which makes laws) are up for election, and 34 out of the 100 seats in the Senate (the other branch of Congress) will be elected. The governor (a state's top leader) will be voted on in 36 states. In 27 states, the secretary of state will be elected. This role is now of greater interest after former President Donald Trump falsely claimed that fraud occurred in the 2020 election. As a state's chief clerk, this position will

certify a state's ballots in the 2024 Presidential election and will be called upon to decide whether any fraud is taking place.

#### Why is interest high for the election?

Voters are concerned about many issues, with the top concerns being inflation (increased prices) and the economy, according to a poll conducted by *The* New York Times and Siena College. Young people agree with those concerns. In a poll *The Week Junior* conducted with YouGov of more than 700 children across the US, bringing down the price of goods was the issue they said lawmakers should address first. Experts predict that more people may vote this year than in the last midterm election in 2018. That election had the highest turnout of voters in the last 100 years, with 53% of people voting.

#### Why is the election important?

The party that controls the House and Senate determines which laws will be passed until the next election in 2024. The outcome of a midterm election can determine how much a President can get done during the second half of their term. The election could have an impact on how the country tackles issues such as climate change.

#### What will happen next?

Early voting will continue. As of October 20, more than 4.8 million people had already cast their ballots. Politicians will continue to ask for support by running TV ads, participating in debates, and distributing campaign materials until polls close on November 8. The results for most races will be announced on election night.



We may not associate school with free time, but the word began with the Greek skholē, which meant "leisure," as well as a "place for discussion." For many ancient Greeks, leisure time involved the education

of the mind rather than recreation and play.

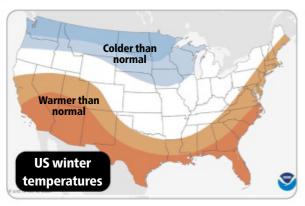


### THE WEEK IN HISTORY

#### **November 3, 2014**

One World Trade Center opens On November 3, 2014, One World Trade **Center officially opened in New York** City. The skyscraper was built after the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center were destroyed in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Nicknamed the Freedom Tower, the building stands 1,776 feet tall, a height chosen to mark the year 1776, when the US gained its independence.





#### Weather predicted for winter

Winter is predicted to be colder than normal for many states in the northern US, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA, US agency that forecasts weather). People living in these states may have higher heating bills. States in the southern US may experience warmer temperatures this winter, and drought (long periods without precipitation) could affect both southern and western states.



#### NYC schools to mark Diwali

New York City Mayor Eric Adams announced that Diwali will be a holiday for New York City public schools starting in 2023. The Hindu holiday, which symbolizes the spiritual victory of light over darkness, is observed by more than 200,000 New Yorkers and more than one billion people worldwide. The inclusiveness of New York is significant, and this is a way to "say that in a loud way," Adams said.



### Girls Scouts get big donation

The Girl Scouts of America has received an \$84.5 million donation from author and philanthropist MacKenzie Scott. It is the most money it has ever been given from a single donor. Scott, who was once married to Jeff Bezos, the founder of Amazon, is known for giving generous donations to nonprofit groups. The funds will go to making membership more accessible, hiring staff, and more.



# Mississippi town honors Emmett Till

On October 21, hundreds of people gathered in the town of Greenwood, Mississippi, for the unveiling of a statue of Emmett Till. The monument is designed to stand as a permanent reminder of a tragic event in American history.

Emmett Till was a Black American teenager who grew up in Chicago, Illinois. In 1955, at age 14, he traveled to visit family members in Mississippi. At the time, the area was highly

segregated (unjustly separated by race). During a trip to a store in the community of Money,
Mississippi, on August
24, Till was reportedly
heard whistling at a white shopkeeper named Carolyn
Bryant. Four days later, Till was kidnapped, beaten, and killed by two white men. An all-white jury acquitted (declared not guilty)
Bryant's husband Roy and his half-brother,
J.W. Milam. They later publicly said they killed Till but were never convicted of the crime.

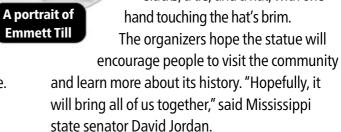
Till's mother, Mamie Till-Mobley, widely publicized her son's murder. His story became

part of the civil rights movement, which was the struggle for equality and justice for Black people in the 1950s and 1960s.

At the dedication of the statue, Madison Harper, a high school student, spoke. "Change has come, and it will continue to happen," she said. "Decades ago, our parents and grandparents could not envision that a moment like today would transpire."

State and county officials worked for more than a year to install the statue at Greenwood's Rail Spike

Park. They commissioned Matt Glenn, an artist from Utah, to create the "larger than life" statue, which stands 9 feet tall and is made of bronze. It depicts Till in a dress shirt, slacks, a tie, and a hat, with one nd touching the hat's brim.



### THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Moose interrupts youth soccer game in Wyoming"  $v_{PI}$ 





# **Around the world**



# Ethiopia First peace talks begin

Leaders from Ethiopia's government and Tigray, a region of Ethiopia, met on October 24 in Pretoria, South Africa, to begin formal peace talks. The government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) have been at war for two years. The African Union (an organization of 55 African countries that work together) is mediating the talks.



# British Columbia, Canada Humpback whale freed from fish nets

A humpback whale entangled in 300 feet of fishing nets was rescued near Texada Island. A marine mammal rescue team worked from boats for close to five hours to carefully cut the rope loose. The whale then stuck its head out of the water and did a backflip (a rare move called spy-hopping), which freed the rope, and swam off with other whales. The team reported they were "overwhelmed with just happiness."



# Siurana, Spain Village stays out of the spotlight

The stunning mountaintop village of Siurana, which has a population of 27 people, was selected to be on Spain's "most beautiful" list—but the town has declined the honor. Mayor Salvador Salvadó worried that being on the list would encourage too much tourism in the tiny village. He told The Times of London, "I don't see what good it can bring us." The list makers said that they had never received such a firm rejection before.



#### Mexico City, Mexico Mariachi music helps patients

People with Alzheimer's disease, a condition that affects the memory, are being helped by mariachi bands to remember things. Mariachi is a style of traditional Mexican music. The Mexican Alzheimer's Center has organized music therapy sessions to stir the memories of people with Alzheimer's disease, through singing along and dancing to mariachi.



#### Rio de Janeiro, Brazil Dog becomes officer

A dog has become the official mascot of police officers in the city of Rio de Janeiro. The dog, who has been named Corporal Oliveira, was found in 2019 outside the police station and was adopted by a police officer. The pup was given a police uniform and sunglasses and has become a star, with more than 120,000 followers on Instagram. "The children love it and are very happy," said one police officer.



GETTY IMAGES (4); DFO MM RESPONSE; REUTERS; SHUTTERSTOCK; IRIB HANDOUT/EPA-EFE; ALAMY (2)

# **Around the world**





# Mosul, Iraq Ancient carvings found

Eight rock carvings believed to be 2,700 years old have been discovered by archaeologists (scientists who study objects left by people long ago) in northern Iraq. The carvings, which were made in marble and show battles, grapevines, and palm trees, were found near the Mashki Gate, an ancient structure that is currently being restored.



# Φ

#### Tehran, Iran Crowds cheer female rock climber

Iranian climber Elnaz Rekabi was greeted by cheering crowds on October 19 after she competed in South Korea without a hijab (headscarf). Female Iranian athletes are required by law to cover their hair while competing. Rekabi has said that her hijab fell off accidentally. Authorities have reportedly placed Rekabi under house arrest (forced to stay home). Since September, Iranian women have been protesting for equality and greater rights.



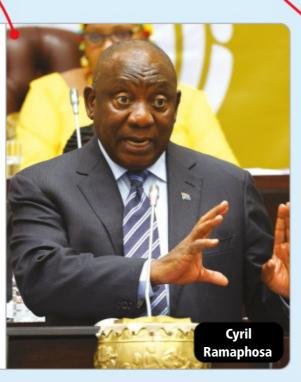


#### Nagakute, Japan Ghibli Park to open in November

The world's first Ghibli Park, a theme park dedicated to the Studio Ghibli anime universe, will begin opening in phases in Nagakute on November 1. Visitors can experience a play area inspired by the film The Cat Returns, visit Satsuki's and Mei's house from My Neighbor Totoro, and buy the bread featured in Kiki's Delivery Service. The park will not have rides. Instead, it is meant to make people feel like they are part of the Ghibli world.



President Cyril Ramaphosa has announced plans to deal with government corruption (when people in power behave in a dishonest or illegal way to benefit themselves). Past president Jacob Zuma was accused of letting people close to him steal money. Zuma denies this, but Ramaphosa said he wants to change laws so it can't happen in the future. Some critics are skeptical of the plans and point out that Ramaphosa has also been accused of corruption.





#### Taichung, Taiwan Rainbow Village art damaged

Artwork in the Rainbow Village in Taichung, Taiwan, which has lots of houses with colorful murals, has been painted over. The village was created when a former soldier painted murals to save the village from being knocked down. It now has one million visitors a year. Employees of the company that take care of the village have been arrested.

# The big debate

# Should middle and high schools have recess?

Some people say all students need a break, but is there enough time in the day?

#### What you need to know

- The Centers for Disease Control (the US health protection agency) says recess is good for children's health, social skills, and ability to learn.
- More than 90% of US elementary schools have recess for K-5 students, but only a handful of middle and high schools have it.
- At least 12 states require schools to have recess for younger children.
- In the US, the average recess period for elementary school students is 26.9 minutes long.

Any students who entered middle school this year are experiencing their first semester without recess. As children grow into preteens and teens, most US school systems remove this midday period of playtime from the schedule (or replace it with a longer lunch period). This practice follows a common belief that recess is for young children and would be a waste of time for older kids. However, some middle and high schools have experimented with adding periods of unstructured time back into their schedules, saying that it's better for their school community. What do you think? Should middle and high schools have recess?



#### Yes—give kids a much-needed break

Everybody needs time to relax and have fun, even if they're too old for the playground. School days are long and require a lot of focus. Students should be given the opportunity to take a real break. After hours of sitting at a desk, they can use the time for physical activity, which has been shown to lower stress levels and boost the ability to focus in class afterward. Students at schools with recess for upper grades say they return to class more energized and refreshed. Even if they're not being active, the break gives them a chance to socialize, which helps them learn communication and other skills. Why should school be all work and no play?

#### No—let them have time to themselves

Most studies on the benefits of recess are specific to young children. Research on teens, meanwhile, has shown that overly packed schedules can stress them out and harm their health. Older students benefit from extracurricular activities they enjoy, more sleep, and free time outside school. Adding recess to the school day would take away from valuable instruction time, so most schools would have to end later. That means kids would have less of the true free time they crave. If older kids have more time to roam the schools but can't leave, they might spend the break on social media or gaming apps. That's not a great use of time.

### Three reasons why middle and high schools should have recess

- Students need time to clear their heads and relax during the school day.
- 2 Running around and being active at recess reduces stress, increases focus, and helps kids learn better.
- Recess allows students to interact and build social connections outside class, even if they aren't physically active.

### NO Three reasons why middle and high schools should not have recess

- Research shows that tweens and teens get stressed out by jam-packed schedules.
  They do better with a little freedom.
- Adding recess could require students to stay at school longer to make up the time.
- Older students who have breaks during the school day but can't leave might not use the time wisely.

#### **LAST WEEK'S POLL**

Last week, we asked if gaspowered leaf blowers should be banned. Your answers cleared up any doubt: 66% of you said yes, and 34% of you said no.

#### What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think middle and high schools should have recess or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

**The goal of the big debate** is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

# **People**



# A record of kindness

Film and wrestling star John Cena has a new title for granting wishes to kids.

Professional wrestler and actor John Cena has set a world record for granting the most wishes through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Make-A-Wish is a nonprofit organization that helps fulfill the wishes of children who have a serious illness.

After Cena granted his 650th wish in September, Guinness World Records announced it as the official world record.

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Cena, 45, started his pro
wrestling career in 1999. He
became a crowd favorite on
World Wrestling Entertainment
in 2002 and was also the face of its
campaign against bullying, having been
bullied as a child himself. Cena has five US
and 16 world championship wins. One of
the highest-paid actors in Hollywood, he
has appeared in many action and comedy
movies, including as Peacemaker in the DC
Comics superhero films.

Make-A-Wish

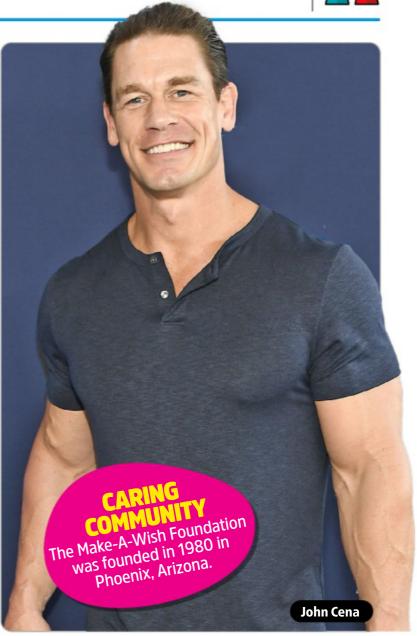
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According to Make-A-Wish, Cena is the children's most requested celebrity. In the organization's 42-year history, he is the only person who has granted more than 400 wishes. Anytime a wish is made to meet Cena, he said, he drops what he

is doing and goes. "If I can offer a fantastic experience, I'll be first in line to do my part," he told reporters.

When granting a wish, Cena will often bring along one of his championship belts to show the kids. They also take

photos with the star and sometimes get to venture inside the wrestling ring with him. "I can't say enough about how cool it is to see the kids so happy and their families so happy," he once said of his time with the foundation. "I want to make them feel like it's not just another show—it's truly their day."



# A special naming

Award program prize after former First Lady
Michelle Obama. The Michelle Obama Award for
Memoir, as it is now called, honors its namesake,
whose own memoir *Becoming* sold more than 17
million copies worldwide. Each year, the award will
provide a \$10,000 college scholarship to a public
high school senior in the US. "After publishing my
memoir," Obama said in a statement, "I've learned
that writing your own story can be a powerful tool."





# Legend is mourned

Star of stage and screen Angela Lansbury died on October 11 at age 96. Lansbury was an award-winning film, television, and theater actress, known for her long-running role in the 1980s and 1990s TV mystery show *Murder She Wrote* and as the voice of Mrs. Potts in the 1991 animated film *Beauty and the Beast*. Over her lengthy career, she received five Tonys (top theater award) as well as three Oscar (top film award) and 16 Emmy (top TV award) nominations. She once said, "Bringing humor and bringing happiness and joy to an audience is a wonderful opportunity in life."





# **Animals and the environment**



#### **Biggest threats**

Many of the species in Australia can't be found anywhere else because it is an island, isolated from other parts of the world.

Still, many of them, like the northern quoll and the orangebellied parrot, are in danger of extinction due to four big threats: bushfires, habitat loss, invasive species, and climate change.



# Australia plans to save species

The government of Australia has announced a new plan to save 110 species of animals and plants from becoming extinct (when a species no longer exists), as well as protecting large areas of land.

Australia has more than 1,900 species that are threatened by extinction. A special report released by the Australian government in July showed that Australia has lost more mammal species than any other continent and, compared to other

rich countries, has one of the worst

rates of species decline.

The recently elected Australian government's new 10-year plan aims to change

this. It has named 110 "priority species" to protect from extinction. This includes 22 birds, 21 mammals, 11 reptiles, and 30 types of

plants, as well as frogs, fish, and invertebrates (animals without a

spine). Species on the list include several parrots, marsupials (mammals that carry their young in a pouch) like the koala, and a lizard called the Canberra grassland earless dragon. Australia has also pledged to protect at least 30% of its land—including the Blue

Mountains and Australian Alps. The government has so far pledged \$146 million to save native plants and animals.

This is the first "zero extinction" plan ever created by an Australian federal (nationwide) government. The 10-year plan will cost more than \$320 million to implement. Tanya Plibersek, Australia's environment and water minister, said the government is setting "the strongest targets we've ever seen."

While conservationists (people who work to protect animals and nature) have welcomed the plan, some have criticized parts of it. For example, they argue that focusing on 110 species when Australia has nearly 2,000 species in danger is not enough. They say that more money will be needed to make the plan work. "Halting extinctions is achievable, particularly for a wealthy nation with science-based solutions," said Rachel Lowry of WWF-Australia.



#### **PLACE OF THE WEEK**

The Blue Mountains

Bear Mountain State Park, New York

This nature getaway sits in the mountains above the Hudson River. There are miles of hiking trails, including a popular stretch of the Appalachian Trail, which takes hikers up to the peak of Bear Mountain. There are picnic tables under the trees and the large Hessian Lake, where bass and trout swim. Some of the other wildlife in the park includes bald eagles, snapping turtles, deer, otters, and beavers. The park also has the Trailside Museums and Zoo, which has a nature trail from which visitors might see bears, hawks, and lizards.



# Sharks circle to make a match

Researchers have often wondered why basking sharks swim together in circles. Now, after studying sharks off the west coast of Ireland, they think it is the aquatic animals' way of seeing lots of sharks at once so they can find the perfect mate.

Basking sharks are known for their huge, gaping mouths, which they use to eat plankton (tiny plants invisible to the human eye) while they swim. Basking sharks are typically solitary (live alone). However, between 2016 and 2021, marine scientists filmed 19 circling groups

of basking sharks by using drones and underwater cameras. Between six and 23 sharks would form a circle, with equal numbers of males and females, and swim round and round for hours. During each gathering, the males and females took turns to meet each other for a few minutes, touching fins and bodies.

David Sims, the study's lead author, said this solves the mystery of how the solitary animals find a mate. "It is astonishing that this wonder of the natural world has remained hidden for so long," he said.

# Animal of the week

**Fossa** 



Fossa pups have been born at the Chester Zoo, in England, for the first time in the zoo's history. The pups are triplets: one male and two females. Fossas are cat-like mammals distantly related to mongooses.

- LIFE SPAN: 15 years in the wild
- HABITAT: The forests of Madagascar
- SIZE: Up to 6 feet long
- **DIET:** Lemurs, wild pigs, mice, fish, and birds
- **FUN FACT:** The fossa's long tail helps it stay balanced while it maneuvers through trees.

### **Good week / Bad week**



#### **Parrots**

A group of 275 parrots was rescued from Malama Manu Sanctuary on Pine Island, Florida, after Hurricane Ian. Storm damage cut the parrots off from food. Among the rescued birds were macaws, cockatoos, and rare king parrots.



#### **Small animals**

Guinea pigs, ducks, and geckos are being surrendered to animal shelters or other rescue organizations in large numbers. Rescue centers report people who adopted them during the pandemic are no longer able or interested in caring for them.



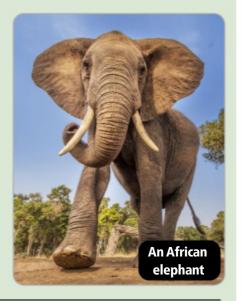
#### "Why are elephants big?"

Alex. 10. Texas

#### **Debbie Flinkman**

Zookeeper, Elephant Trails, Smithsonian's National Zoo

Elephants have many natural advantages that have helped them grow to be so big. An elephant can use the reach of its trunk, powerful tusks, long memory, and intelligence to find and consume food—up to 500 pounds of leaves, branches, fruits, and roots each day.



Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about the Smithsonian's National Zoo at <u>nationalzoo.si.edu</u>.

A wheat field



# All about pasta

# A favorite food all

# Pasta in its many shapes and forms has been popular for thousands of years.

Nearly 6 billion pounds of pasta are eaten in the US each year. How did it become such a favorite in restaurants and home kitchens alike? Let's follow the strands of pasta's past to find out.

#### What is pasta?

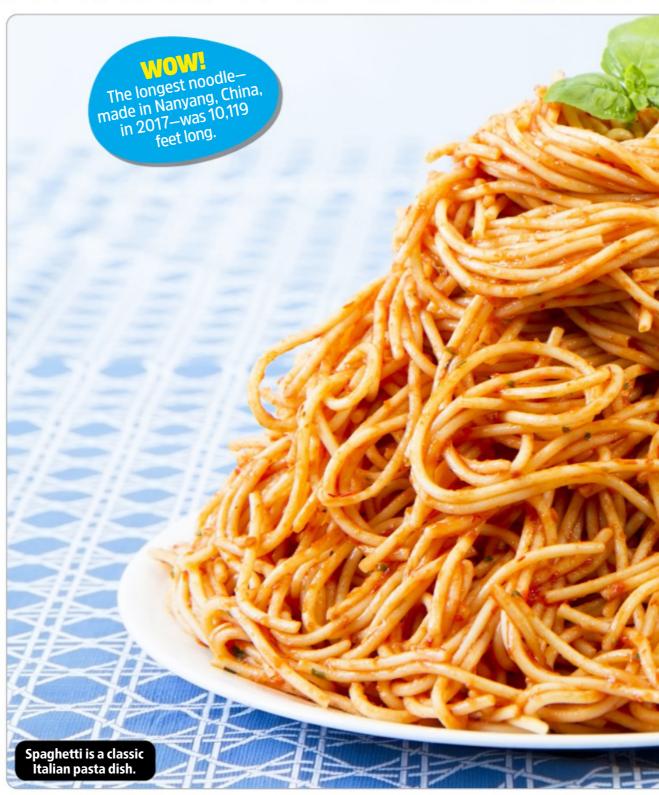
One of the world's most popular foods, pasta is surprisingly simple and versatile. Its name means "paste" or "dough" in Italian. This may be because pasta typically starts as a thick,

wheat-based dough that is unleavened (made without yeast or other ingredients that would make it rise). Sometimes referred to as noodles, pasta is available in hundreds of shapes and sizes. People also vary the ingredients—using buckwheat, rice, potatoes, or vegetables.



#### Where did pasta come from?

There is some debate over pasta's origins. The Chinese may have made a noodle-like food as early as 3000 BCE, and legend has it that the explorer Marco Polo brought it from China to Italy in the 13th century. However, two ancient Italian civilizations, the Etruscans and the Romans, appear to have made lasagna-style noodles centuries earlier, and Arabian traders also made pasta. Meanwhile, Europeans mostly baked, grilled, or fried their pasta until about the 16th century, adding sweet or savory flavors like raisins and spices along with meat and cheese. By the 17th century, pasta had become a dietary staple in Naples, Italy.



### **Pasta shapes**

#### **Campanelle**

This pasta's name (pronounced cam-pa-NEL-lay) means "little bells" or "bellflowers." Some think this hollow pasta with curved edges also looks like a trumpet.



#### **Farfalle**

Meaning "butterflies" in Italian, farfalle (pronounced far-FOLL-lay) are also referred to as bow ties. They are pinched in the center to form their distinctive shape and are often a base for pasta salads.



## All about pasta



# over the world



#### The US gets a taste

The English discovered pasta while traveling through Italy, then brought it to their New World colonies. American colonists particularly liked noodles smothered with cream sauce and cheese—a dish



that became known as macaroni. Thomas Jefferson is said to have brought the first macaroni machine to America in 1789, after he served as the US ambassador to France. Jefferson and his enslaved chef, James Hemings, helped to make the dish popular. Tomatoes, which originated in the Americas, also turned out to make a great pasta sauce. In 1848, a Frenchman in Brooklyn built America's first industrial pasta factory, where he dried his spaghetti by laying the strands out in the sun. Now this convenient, pantry-friendly food could be produced on a large scale. Pasta production soon expanded across the country.



#### How it's made

Pasta starts with flour. Semolina (a form of wheat) is commonly used because it's high in gluten, which creates a chewy texture. However, whole-grain and gluten-free flours are also used today. The flour is mixed with water, eggs, or both to make a dough, which is kneaded until smooth, then rolled or flattened and cut into shapes—long strips, hollow tubes, curly twirls, or bits as small as a grain of rice. It can then be cooked fresh or dried to use later. See the box at left for a closer look at four favorites.

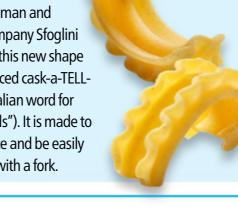
#### **Orecchiette**

These "little ears" (pronounced oh-rehk-KYEHT-tay) are common in the Puglia region of Italy. They are traditionally made by cutting round pieces of dough and pressing them with a thumb.



#### Cascatelli

In 2021, podcaster Dan Pashman and pasta company Sfoglini unveiled this new shape (pronounced cask-a-TELLee, the Italian word for "waterfalls"). It is made to hold sauce and be easily speared with a fork.





# Science and technology



# Did volcanoes kill dinosaurs?

or many years, a great number of scientists have accepted the theory that dinosaurs were wiped out by an asteroid (large rock that fell from space), but an alternate theory is now gaining attention. New research suggests that big volcanic eruptions may have contributed to the end of the dinosaurs.

About 66 million years ago, a massive

asteroid hit Earth. The impact triggered earthquakes and tsunamis that flooded the land, and clouds of debris and ash blocked out the Sun around the planet. Many scientists believe this caused about 75% of all plants and animals on Earth to die off, including dinosaurs that were not avian (relating to birds). The asteroid's impact is thought to have created the Chicxulub Crater, a 110-mile-wide cavity near what is now the Gulf of Mexico.

Now researchers from Dartmouth University in New Hampshire believe that the asteroid alone did not cause the mass extinction but that volcanoes may also have played a part. A team of scientists were studying the Deccan Plateau, a large mountainous area in southern India. They found signs of volcanic rock shaped into forms called

basalt floods. Volcanic rocks are formed when a volcano erupts and sends out lava (hot liquid rock), which then cools and becomes solid. Basalt floods are rare and form when either several small eruptions or one gigantic eruption floods vast areas of land with lava. These eruptions can block out the

Sun with ash, stop plants from growing, and kill off animals' food supplies.

The scientists determined that the basalt rocks formed at the time the dinosaurs died out.
This timing is a strong clue that a huge volcanic eruption could have contributed to the death of the dinosaurs. The team called the eruption and asteroid a "double-punch."

There have been several mass extinctions (see box at right), including the one that killed the dinosaurs. Some of the other extinctions were caused by volcanoes, which supports the new theory that a volcano could have been involved in this one. Brenhin Keller, an author of the study, said it is difficult to be sure which volcanic eruption caused which mass extinction. But, Keller said, "Our results make it hard to ignore the role of volcanism in extinction."

**The Deccan** 

**Plateau in India** 

#### Other major extinction events



The event that killed the dinosaurs, called the K-Pg extinction, wiped out three quarters of the species on Earth about 66 million years ago. It is the most recent extinction event in history, but there have been others. The late Devonian extinction, for example, also killed 75% of life. Scientists think that as plants evolved, algae (a type of water plant) stole all the oxygen from the oceans, killing other life.

The Permian-Triassic extinction wiped out 90% of species. The region now known as Siberia erupted in volcanoes that released carbon dioxide gas and heated the planet, making sea levels rise and rain turn acidic, killing many plants.

# Science and technology



# Rock samples could prove life existed on Mars

ASA's Perseverance rover, which launched from Earth in 2020, is close to achieving its primary mission on Mars. Nicknamed "Percy," the wheeled robot's main goal is to find signs of past life on

the planet by collecting samples of rock and soil. These will be analyzed by scientists at NASA (the US space agency).

Percy landed in the Jezero Crater on Mars in February 2021. Although Mars is now a drilled by Percy dry and dusty planet, scientists believe that water flowed on its surface billions of years ago. The harsh conditions there make the existence of life today unlikely. Scientists hope that samples from inside the Jezero Crater, which would have once been a lake, may prove that life had existed there.

Percy has been drilling into the ground in the crater to take samples. Recent ones were taken from a part of the crater called Wildcat Ridge, which appears to have more organic molecules

> (building blocks for life) than other areas explored so far.

Lori Glaze from NASA described the scientists and others on the Perseverance team as "incredible." "We not only went to the right

place, but we sent the right spacecraft with the right science instruments to explore this amazing ancient environment on Mars," she said.

The samples have been collected in tubes that will be left on the planet's surface. NASA will collect them and bring them back to Earth by 2033.





A sample

# Sensing sounds through fake teeth

ental implants, or artificial teeth, could be used in a hearing aid technology called bone conduction. Bone conduction hearing aids turn sound into vibrations in the bones of the skull. These vibrations stimulate the cochlea, an organ in the inner ear that helps process sound.

Scientists at Tongii University in China conducted research on 38 people with hearing loss who also had a dental implant. They tested how well a range of sound tones

traveled through the volunteers' implants as well as their natural teeth and mastoid bones, which are in the head behind the ear.

In most cases, the volunteers heard the sounds through their implants as well as, if not better than, their natural teeth or mastoid bones. Going forward, the team hopes to develop dental implants with electronics inside them that could be anchored to the jawbone and generate sound vibrations.

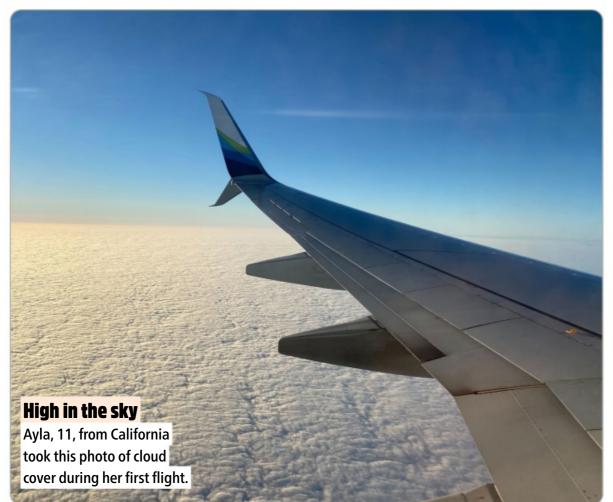


Scientists in China have developed a mask that can detect SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19. Airborne respiratory viruses are spread by coughing and sneezing. Even if someone does not seem sick, they can spread virus droplets unknowingly.

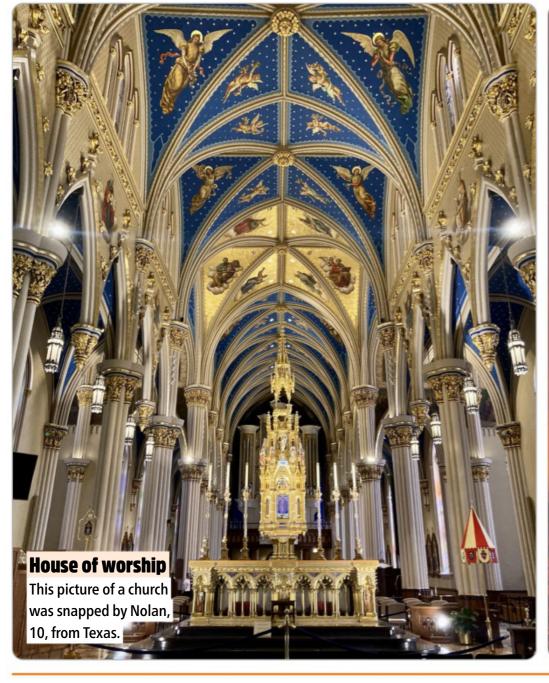
The mask has a sensor that will recognize even the tiniest viral droplet within 10 minutes of exposure. The mask will then send a signal to the wearer's phone. The face covering was designed as an early warning system that scientists hope will help contain future pandemics.



# Reader photos of the week









# Reader photos of the week













# **Sports**



Courtney Buzzerio

#### History of the volleyball



When volleyball was created in 1895, players used a basketball or its bladder (inside air sac). The first ball for the sport was created in 1900. Most balls today have 18 panels of leather or synthetic leather, but balls used at the Olympics and some other tournaments have eight.

# Exciting matches in college volleyball

The 2022–2023 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) women's volleyball season is underway. Recently, there were thrilling matchups between some of the top-ranked Division One teams in the country.

On October 19, the University of Texas, the number one team, played lowa State University.

Texas came to the match with a 14–0 record, but in a shocking upset, lowa State handed the Longhorns their first loss of the season. Both teams played well, with Texas winning the first and third set and lowa State winning the second and fourth, so the match came down to a winner-take-all fifth set. Iowa State held a slim 10–9 lead before

rattling off four consecutive points on their way to sealing the unforgettable win.

In Big Ten conference action the same day, third-ranked University of Nebraska faced

off against 12th-ranked Purdue
University. Nebraska is having a
standout season and came into
the match undefeated against Big
Ten opponents. They had also
swept their previous four
matches. The team proved their
strength again against Purdue,

October 22, Nebraska pulled off yet another sweep in a match against the University of Illinois, racking up their 11th victory in a row. It is Nebraska's longest winning streak since 2018 and

defeating them in straight sets. On

brought their record to 18–1. On October 24, they became the number one team in some polls.

In another big competition, second-ranked Louisville visited the eighth-ranked University of Pittsburgh on October 23. Both teams play in the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC). Louisville entered the contest with just one loss this season. Pittsburgh controlled and won the first two sets, but Louisville refused to give in. They battled back to win the next two sets, forcing a tiebreaking fifth. Pitt was able to hold on, however, and took the final set, 15–12. A star of the match was Pitt's Courtney Buzzerio, who had 22 kills (unreturnable spikes), including the game winner. It was Louisville's first ACC loss in two years. They are now 18–2, while Pitt improved to 20–2.

#### THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

#### **SOCCER**

In the NWSL playoff semifinals on October 23, the Portland Thorns' Crystal Dunn scored a stoppage time goal to give her team a 2–1 win over the San Diego Wave. In the championship final, they will play the Kansas City Current, who beat the top-seeded OL Reign, 2–0. In Major League Soccer playoffs, the Philadelphia Union, Austin FC, Los Angeles FC, and New York City FC have all made the conference finals.



#### BASKETBALL

Phoenix Suns point guard Chris Paul has become the third player in National Basketball Association history to record 11,000 assists in his career. He reached the milestone during an October 23 win over the Los Angeles Clippers.

#### **FORMULA 1 RACING**

At the United States Grand Prix in Austin, Texas, on October 23, Max Verstappen beat Lewis Hamilton for his 13th victory of the season, tying a single-season record for the most wins.



# Brothers face off in MLB playoffs

On October 19, Game 2 of Major League
Baseball's National League Championship
Series (NLCS) between the Philadelphia Phillies
and the San Diego Padres made history for a
unique reason. That day, the starting pitcher for
the Phillies was Aaron Nola, and the catcher for
the Padres was his older brother, Austin. When it
was Austin's turn to hit, they became the first pair
of brothers to face off against each other as batter
and pitcher in a major league playoff game.

The last brothers to meet in the playoffs were Roberto and Sandy Alomar Jr. in 1996. Four other pairs of brothers have also made joint postseason appearances in the past. The Nolas' parents were in the stands for the big game, and their father wore jerseys for both teams.

Austin's first at-bat came in the second inning of the game, and he grounded out to third. When

he returned to the batter's box in the fifth inning, the Phillies were up, 4–2. He hit a run-scoring single off of Aaron, and eventually scored himself, tying the game. Soon after, a new Phillies pitcher came in. The Padres went on to win, 8–5.

After the loss, Aaron said of his brother, "I want to beat him. I want to go to the next round and let him go home." That is just what happened on October 23, when the Phillies won Game 5 of the NLCS and earned a spot in the World Series for the first time since 2009. Aaron might want to thank his brother: With the go-ahead run on base in the top of the ninth inning, Austin hit a fly ball to right field that led to the game-ending out.

The World Series begins on October 28. The Phillies will play the Houston Astros, who swept the New York Yankees in the American League Championship Series.



### **COACH OF THE WEEK**

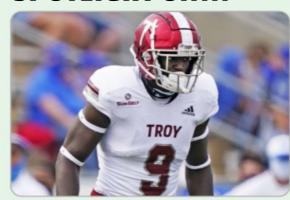
Coach's Name: Vanessa Buster

**Team: Middleton Vikings Cheer Squad** 

"Coach Vanessa is nice and kind, and she always helps me do what is right, even outside of cheer. She is very positive while coaching, and when I make a mistake, she helps me to know it is OK. She has taught me why it is important to work as a team and to be a good sport (win or lose). Coach Vanessa pushes me to always try my best, and that is why I love cheering for her." Kourtney, 11, Idaho

To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to *hello@ theweekjunior.com*. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

#### **SPOTLIGHT ON...**



## **Richard Jibunor**

AGE: 23 SPORT: FOOTBALI TEAM: TROY UNIVERSITY

New turf I'm from Nigeria, and I went to a camp there for student-athletes. They selected smart students who were very good at sports to move to the US for high school. When I got here, I was doing track and basketball. I had some friends who said they played football—in Nigeria, soccer is called football—and I was excited thinking I could play with them. Then I found out it was American football. I enjoyed watching them play, so I decided to try it and I liked it.

# Making connections

When you get to college, everybody comes from different backgrounds and you bond with people you didn't even know before. People have different upbringings and everything, and yet everybody comes together with the same goal.

**Game-day plan** I wake up, do my morning devotion, eat my favorite meal—I love rice and steamed chicken—and I talk to my family back home to take my mind off football.

**Current goals** We hope to have a better record this season than last year. My personal goal is to have better statistics and to be able to produce for the team more than I did last year. I want to be someone my team can always count on. Also, I haven't won a championship yet and I want it so bad. That would be my biggest accomplishment.

**Tough lesson** In September, we lost to Appalachian State in the last few seconds of the game. It was terrible. It was a wakeup call that we should never take a play off and to remember that the game is not over until we hear the whistle.



**Arts and entertainment** 



# Popular book becomes film

In an adaptation of The School for Good and Evil, heroes and villains learn about accepting who they are.

The first book of the best-selling series *The School for Good and Evil* by Soman Chainani has been turned into a new film for Netflix. It takes place in an enchanted world that inspires fairy-tale stories. The movie is rated PG-13

for violence, action, and some frightening images.

The film follows teen best friends Sophie and Agatha, who are swept off to a magical academy that trains aspiring heroes and villains.

Sophie always imagined life as a princess, but she is sent to the School

for Evil. Agatha, who is called a witch by people in her village, is sent to the School for Good. Screenwriter David Magee said the characters come to realize "they are both more than what they think, and they have to evolve in their

understanding of who they are."

The appearance of the schools was inspired by early 1900s architecture.
The School for Good was modeled after Flemish (from Belgium) Art Nouveau styles with curved lines and light-filled spaces. The School for Evil was based on elaborate Gothic and Basque Nouveau styles from Spain.

Chainani was involved in the film and makes a cameo (brief appearance) in it. He called the film "deeply faithful" to the book. He said that when he was growing up, he always liked and rooted for the villains in fairy-tale movies. When he learned about the stories that fairy tales were based on, he found out that endings were changed so the good guy could win. "I want to remind audiences what fairy tales can be—which are these surprising, unexpected stories," he said.

The film's director, Paul Feig, said he loved that Chainani explored real-life themes: "Nobody is all one thing. We're all a mix of good and evil, and scared and brave, and confident and insecure."

#### 3 facts about the film

#### The costumes

There were 867 costumes and 600 pairs of boots and shoes created for the film. The suits that School for Evil head Lady Lesso wears were based on styles that actresses like Katharine Hepburn wore in the 1940s.



#### The fairies

**Soman Chainani** 

The School for Good is guarded by fairies. Their look was inspired by jellyfish. They were played by dancers who were filmed with a 360-degree robotic camera. The footage was mixed with computergenerated imagery.



#### The sets

The film was shot on location in Northern Ireland and on giant sets built to create parts of the school. The production team purchased more than 20,000 books to fill the School Master's chambers and a bookstore.



# **Arts and entertainment**





# BTS to enlist in South Korean army

PG

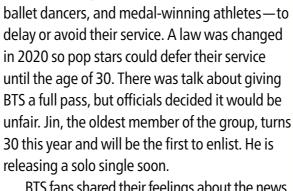
n June, the well-known Korean pop (K-pop) group BTS announced they would be taking a break from working together to focus on solo projects. On October 17, however, their record label revealed additional plans: All seven men (Jin, Suga, J-Hope, RM, Jimin, V, and Jungkook) are going to enlist in the South Korean military.

BTS formed in 2013 and have broken world records for song sales and streams. In South Korea, all able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 28 must spend 18 to 21 months in the military. The members of BTS are in their 20s, so the question of if and when they would need to join the military had been an issue for years.

**MOVIE NIGHT** 

South Korea allows people who "enhance national prestige"—such as classical musicians,

BTS fans shared their feelings about the news on social media. "Pray they will be treated fairly and with respect," one wrote. Another said, "I am very sad but still I feel so proud of them."





#### Scoob! (2020) **HBO Max**

Based on the popular 1970s cartoon series, this comedy stars a large, friendly Great Dane named Scooby-Doo. He helps solve mysteries with his best friend, Shaggy, and pals Velma, Fred, and Daphne. The story reveals how Scooby met Shaggy and formed Mystery Inc. with the others. Now grown-up, their job is harder and they've been struggling to stick together. Shaggy and Scooby feel like they aren't valued and decide to run away, but they're attacked by supervillain Dick Dastardly. He is after Scooby because he thinks the dog is the key that will help him unlock an ancient treasure. The pair are rescued by superhero Blue Falcon, but Dick Dastardly is still after them. Their friends are looking for them, too. Who will get to Scooby and Shaggy first?







#### **Critter Fixers: Country Vets** (Nat Geo Wild) (Disney+)

Veterinarians (doctors who care for animals) Terrence Ferguson and Vernard Hodges are back for a new season of their reality series. The pair will be treating canine companions, baby goats, geese, and more at their busy clinic in rural Georgia.



#### **Ghost Writer** (Apple TV+)

A new cast of kids are starring in the third season of the award-winning series set in a haunted bookstore. Expect characters from *The* Wonderful Wizard of Oz and Charlotte's Web to appear in the real world and help the team find a missing ancient Egyptian document.



# **ONI: Thunder God**

This new four-episode animated series follows a young girl named Onari, who lives in a land of gods and monsters from Japanese mythology. As a spirit of destruction heads toward her village, Onari sees a chance to prove she's a brave hero with unique powers.

### On screen



# Race karts around slimy tracks

Nickelodeon Kart Racers 3: Slime Speedway is a new racing game. It was recently released for the Nintendo Switch, PlayStation platforms, Xbox systems, and PC. It is similar to the popular Mario Kart franchise, but with Nickelodeon-inspired twists and turns.

The Kart Racers series began in 2018, and the features of the game have expanded with each installment. The first game offered 12 playable characters, and the second one had 30. The new version stars 40 Nicktoon icons as drivers, including characters from popular shows Avatar: The Last Airbender and The Loud House. For the first time, the characters will be voiced by actors, so you'll get to hear their catchphrases as they compete.

Racers build a team by choosing pit crew members with various special talents. The crew helps the main racers navigate 36 wild tracks based on locations in Nickelodeon cartoons, such as Bikini Bottom from *SpongeBob SquarePants*, the Turtle Lair from *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, and more.

The type of help you need from a pit crew depends on the racers you choose and the way you customize your vehicles. You can

trick out karts and bikes with different tires to handle certain tracks and challenges. Midway through every race, slime swamps the track and every racer's kart turns into a boat. Power-up abilities become available as gamers pass through the slimiest parts of the track. It's a wild ride, whether you're playing alone or with up to 12 players online.



#### **BOAR KNIGHT**

Apple Podcasts, Audible

This new musical series follows the story of a magical boar knight named Nathaniel, who wakes up in a fantasy world with no memory of who he is. He sets off on a journey that will include a ghost-filled forest, an ocean with a talking octopus, and opportunities to make new friends.



### **WEBSITE # WEEK**



#### **GEO ART**

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-GeoArt

Fans of art history will have fun playing the game on this special site from Google Arts and Culture. It shows a sculpture, textile, book, or other piece of art, then you guess where it came from by dropping a pin onto a world map. The closer you get to the location, the more points you earn.

### CHANNEL OF THE WEEK

#### MINIATURE SPACE

youtube.com/c/MiniatureSpace

Based in Japan, this YouTube channel with more than 3.3 million subscribers makes recipe videos for dishes such as spaghetti, sushi, and soup, as well as sweet treats like cakes, pies, and doughnuts. The twist: The meals are incredibly tiny and designed to fit in a doll's house.



NICKELODEON (2); REALM; GOOGLE ARTS & CULTURE; MINIATURE SPACE/YOUTUBE

### **Book club**



#### **BOOK OF THE WEEK**

**Island of Spies** 

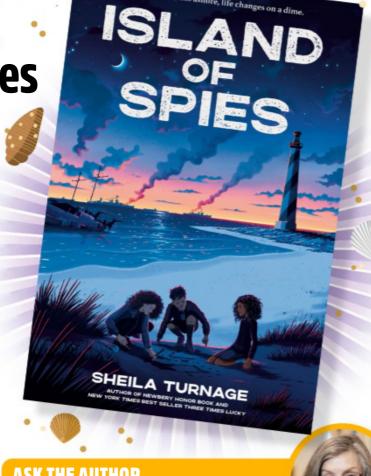
By Sheila Turnage

(Dial Books for Young Readers) It's 1942, and Sarah, nicknamed Stick, and her friends run a detective agency out of a lighthouse in Hatteras Island, North Carolina. Using sleuthing skills learned from books, they calls themselves the Dime Novel Kids. (Dime Novels were inexpensive books published in the early 20th century.) When German boats sink an American ship off the island's coast, the Dime Novel Kids try to uncover the spies on the island who were behind the attack. Will Stick and her friends be able to figure out the mystery in time to stop the next attack? This historical fiction novel is fast-paced and suspenseful. The story contains many twists, and it's also packed with humor. Be sure to read the note from the author that explains the real-life attacks on American ships that inspired this book.

### WIN A BOOK!

We're giving away five copies of Island of Spies.

For a chance to win, send your name and address to contests@theweekjunior .com with Spies in the subject line. Enter by midnight on November 18. See theweekjunior.com/ terms for complete rules.



#### **ASK THE AUTHOR**

### Sheila Turnage

We spoke to the author of *Island of Spies*.

#### Did you always want to be a writer?

Yes, I realized I was a writer in first grade.

#### Why do you like spy stories?

I love spy stories because the stakes are high. The characters risk everything for a belief or a place or people they love.

#### **Are your characters** based on real people?

There's a tiny bit of me in every character I write, even the characters I don't like very much. Stick is a lot like my mother.

#### What makes historical fiction important?

When you have a great story woven into history, it makes history come alive.

#### If you could travel to any time period, what would you choose?

I'd like to travel through the Americas before the Europeans came, to see how people lived.



#### 4 books that feature school elections

These fiction picks have interesting characters and a lot of election drama.



#### Act

By Kayla Miller (Clarion Books)

Olivia, a sixth-grader, campaigns for student council because she

hopes to change her school's policy that prevents some students from going on field trips. She has to run against her closest friends. Will their friendship survive? This graphic novel is the third story in the series. Ages 8–12



#### **Don't Vote for Me**

By Krista Van Dolzer (Sourcebooks Young Readers) When David sees that super-popular Veronica is the

only seventh-grader running for class president, he loudly tells his friend that someone else should run against her. Veronica challenges David, a trumpet player, to be her opponent, and he accepts the challenge. The ending may surprise you. Ages 10-14



#### **Odd Gods**

By David Slavin and Daniel Weitzman, illustrated by Adam J.B. Lane

(HarperCollins)

In this series inspired by mythology, Oddonis (the son of Zeus) runs for middle-school class president against his more popular twin brother. As the election nears, will Oddonis learn to believe in himself? The book contains a lot of humor and illustrations. Ages 8-12



#### **Rachel Takes the Lead**

By Marilyn Kaye (Holiday House)

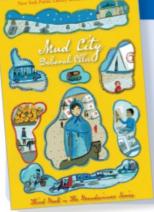
This second book of the Spyglass Sisterhood series is about how

Kiara secretly nominates Rachel to run for class president against one of the most popular students. As the election grows closer, Rachel becomes better at advocating for herself at school and home. At times, the story is very emotional. Ages 8-12

#### **READER RECOMMENDS**

#### Mud City By Deborah Ellis

"This book is about a girl named Shauzia who has fled a refugee camp in Afghanistan and is trying to survive on her own in Peshawar, Pakistan. Her only company is a dog. She has to find food and look for a safe place to sleep every night. No matter how hard her life gets, she never gives up and she makes a life for herself. Shauzia is a courageous girl and her story is inspirational." Meher, 10, Virginia Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.





### How to...



# Navigate with a map

**Find places** 

vou've been.

#### This important skill can also be a lot of fun to practice.

You may frequently see adults following directions I on a map on their smartphone to navigate getting from one place to another. But before it was common for maps to be customized online, people would study individual paper maps or a collection of maps in a book to help them get to know an area or how to get there. Maps can also reveal more than directions. You can more clearly get a full picture of an area—its shape, for example, and where roads and waterways are located. Here's how to get started.

#### **Begin with your town**

If you want to get more familiar with paper maps, try first looking at one that represents your town. Since you already know the area, it may be easier for you to identify roads, large intersections, and neighborhoods. Ask an adult to help you find a map of your town online and print it out. Or check with your school or local library for town maps that can be checked out.

#### **Examine the legend**

The legend, typically located in a box in a corner of the map, contains information about what different symbols on the map represent. For example, the legend may reveal that a solid black line represents a road, while a blue line represents a river. There may also be symbols for hospitals, schools, historic buildings, and more.

#### **Check scale and direction**

The map's scale is usually located by the legend. The scale will state how large of an area the map represents. For example, a half inch on the map could equal one mile of land. A compass rose is usually included and it looks like a star with a circle in the middle. A compass rose's arrows show which way is north, south, west, and east.

#### **Consider topography and more**

Some maps also include topographic information about an area's landscape. A mountain may be shown

> as a large circle with smaller circles inside of it. A forest might appear as a green block. Older maps can also show you how an area has changed. For example, a map of your town from 20 years ago may have different roads or be missing newer parks or neighborhoods.

#### **Use the map**

Once you're familiar with your town map, ask an adult to go on a map walk with you.

Using only the map, try to get from one place to another. You can set challenges for yourself on the walk. For instance, try using the map to get to every body of water in your town. Once you are able to use a map to get around your own town, you could try using one in other areas. Ask an adult if you could visit local parks that have maps for exploring the area.

#### 4 fun facts about the history of maps

Maps have been used for thousands of years to help people understand and navigate the world.

#### They were made of clay.

One of the oldest known maps was carved into clay around 700 to 500 BCE. It shows Mesopotamia, a historical region in Western Asia.

> Sailors made them better.

**Starting in** the 15th century, maps became more accurate

because more sailors were traveling the seas and recording the routes they used to go from country to country to trade goods.

#### Some are valuable.

The first known map to mark

"America" on what is now the US was created in 1507 by a German mapmaker. There is only one surviving copy, which is worth \$10 million.

> They can be misleading. Some

historical maps include places that never

existed. Some mapmakers drew in fake towns in order to catch people who copied their maps and tried to sell them.





# TELL SOMEONE YOU'RE SORRY

Making mistakes is part of life. If you have upset a friend or family member, knowing how to offer a sincere apology can make both of you feel better. Here are some tips.

- 1. Admit fault. The first step when apologizing is to acknowledge that what you did or said was wrong. Instead of just saying "I'm sorry," specifically state what you're apologizing for. For instance, you might say, "I'm sorry I used your special markers without asking."
- 2. Be sincere. When saying you're sorry, it's important to let your friend or family member know that you truly regret upsetting them. You might say, "When I used your markers, I wasn't thinking. I realize I upset you, and I'm sorry."
- 3. Make an effort. There won't always be a way to make a situation better, but sometimes there might be. For instance, you could check to make sure the caps are back on all the markers you used so they don't dry up.



Craft a desert scene with dough

#### What you need

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup cold water
- Skewers
- Baking tray
- Parchment paper

How to...

- Pot
- Potting soil
- Succulents
- Paint
- Paintbrush

#### **Instructions**

- 1. To make the salt dough for the rocks, first combine the flour and salt in a bowl. Add water a few tablespoons at a time, mixing it in as you go, until it's clay-like. Knead the dough for a few minutes, then let it rest for 20 minutes. Ask an adult to heat the oven to 250° F.
- **2.** Mold the salt dough into different rock shapes. Use a skewer to pierce a hole through the center of each rock.
- **3.** Place the rocks on a baking tray lined with parchment paper. Place them in the oven to dry for about 2 hours.
- **4.** While you wait for the rocks to dry, fill the pot with potting soil and plant some succulents.
- **5.** Once your rock shapes are dry and hard, carefully remove the tray from the oven. Allow the rocks to cool completely.
- **6.** Paint the rocks in a rainbow of colors. Let dry.
- **7.** Thread the rocks onto skewers and place them in the pot to complete your desert.

Reprinted with permission from *The Little Artists' Big Book of Activities* by Shannon Wong-Nizic. Page Street Publishing Co. 2022.





# MAKE WEEKLY MEAL PLANS

Creating a meal plan is like making a schedule for what you're going to eat for breakfast, lunch, snacks, and dinner for the next week. Sit down with a parent and brainstorm meals you'd like to have each day, and write them down on a calendar or a piece of paper. Your family can then use the schedule of meals to make a grocery shopping list. Research has shown that meal planning can help your family eat healthier and reduce food waste. This is because having a plan to use all the food you've bought at the store makes you more likely to eat everything before it spoils. This keeps food scraps out of landfills, which is better for the environment.





SAMOA



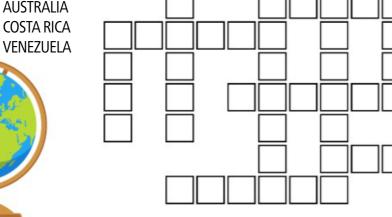
# **Puzzles**

# **Each** of these country names fits into this grid. Can you find where each one goes to complete the grid?

4 letters 7 letters **CUBA** JAMAICA LEBANON FIJ **MOROCCO 5 letters NIGERIA JAPAN** 

8 letters **BOTSWANA** 

6 letters **BRAZIL** 9 letters **CANADA ARGENTINA FRANCE AUSTRALIA** LATVIA **NORWAY** 



# **Take five**

Five 5-letter things in a courtroom are hidden in this grid. For each one, the first letter is somewhere in the first column, the second is somewhere in the second column, and so on. Can you find all five? (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

G	T	D	C	L
В	R	V	G	H
J	Α	N	Α	Ε
Т	E	Α	E	D
S	U		N	L

# **ALL THE SAME**

1. The price paid to mail a letter

3. Popular social media app for sharing photos and videos

TAG

4. Little house in the woods

5. Walk unsteadily

2. Shape of a stop sign

Each answer contains the letters T-A-G. Those letters have been placed for you. Can you figure out the words?



T A G

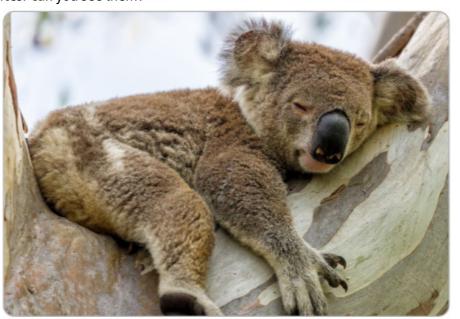
# **SUDOKU**

To complete the grid, place the numbers from 1 to 6 exactly once in each row, column, and 2x3 bold-lined box.

6		3	30		
	2		4		
		5		3	
	1		6		
		2		4	
			5		1

**Spot the difference**These two pictures of a koala bear appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?





# That's unbelievable!



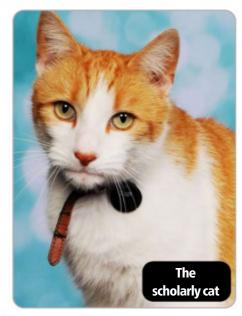


# Mr Doodle decorates his home

Imagine buying a mansion and then drawing all over the walls. Artist Sam Cox—known as Mr Doodle—has decorated his six-bedroom house in Kent, England, with black, cartoon-like drawings. Cox bought the house in 2019 after selling his art, then spent up to 12 hours a day doodling away. He drew on the tub, the bed, and even the toilet. The talented artist says that completing the house is "just the beginning of my childhood dream to doodle the planet."

#### Purr-fect class photos

When Megan and Chloe Roberts brought home prints from picture day at Drury Primary School in the UK, their mom was surprised to receive an extra set of photos. The family's cat, Ziggy, follows the girls to school each day. Ziggy had snuck into the photo shoot, leaped onto an empty seat, and posed for his very own school portrait. Drury's principal, who often finds the cat snoozing on his desk, joked that Ziggy has an excellent attendance record.



### A Cheetos sculpture

A classic snacking experience has been turned into a monument. The company that makes Cheetos created a nearly 17-foot sculpture of a hand holding one of the cheesy puffs, its fingertips covered in bright orange dust. The statue will visit several cities in Canada—starting with the town of Cheadle, because its name sounds similar to "cheetle," the new official name for the cheesy dust.



# Is the Rijksmuseu<u>m</u> infested?

# Giant ants take over museum

A museum in the Netherlands has reported an infestation—an army of 700 giant ants. The enormous insects were spotted crawling up walls and windows in Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum. Instead of calling pest control, the museum began encouraging people to come and see the ants. Now the insect invasion has become an unlikely tourist attraction. What do you think? Is this ant attack for real, or is it a creepy-crawly con?\*



# Muggle mom's magical collection

A Harry Potter fan has created her own wizarding world with collectibles that are worth about \$100,000. Carla Rodriguez of Maryland has spent six years collecting books, clocks, clothes, figures, jewelry, toys, wands, and a rug. She fell in love with author J.K. Rowling's fantasy world while decorating her young son's bedroom in 2016. Since then, her collection has grown to 1,000 items—including a necklace worth more than \$7,000—and now fills one whole room in her house.

toads. The show is open at the Rijksmuseum until January 2023. about people's changing attitudes toward animals like ants, snakes, spiders, and \*Fake! These ants are not real. They are part of an exhibition, Crawly Creatures,



**Editor's note** 

All of us at The Week Junior were happy to hear about the new plan being enacted by the Australian government to save some of that continent's endangered species (p10). The goal is to prevent 110 species of plants and animals, including koalas, from becoming extinct. It will take a huge effort and more than \$320 million over 10 years, and I hope the scientists succeed! This week I was also inspired by our story about John Cena, the actor and wrestler, who has set a world record for granting the most wishes through the Make-A-Wish Foundation (p9). He has fulfilled 650 wishes for children with serious illnesses. That's a tremendous number of wishes and a tremendous amount of kindness! You still have time to enter this year's Winter Cover Contest, and we hope you will! See the box below for details.

> Andrea Barbalich Editor-in-Chief







#### **Embrace Kids Foundation**

This group aims to improve the lives of children who have been diagnosed with cancer and other medical conditions. It raises money to provide financial support to families who are struggling to pay for their child's medical expenses. The group primarily serves families in New Jersey and New York and also has a program in Nigeria. It has assisted more than 3,500 children. Find out more at embrace embracekids.org.

# **Your turn**



# Sharing ideas to save the planet

**66** I came up with the idea for Kids Save the Earth while chatting with my friend about global warming. We both wanted to help the environment, but we kept thinking our ideas were either bad ideas or impossible to make. I was determined to keep trying. I scheduled two meeting events, and kids ages 6 to 11 participated. The first meeting was on Zoom, and we brainstormed ideas for fixing climate change. The second meeting was at my house

and we called it The Big Event. We shared our prototypes for inventions that help the environment. The solutions ranged from a litter-scooping solar-powered boat to a disk that you put on your car to prevent fossil fuel emissions. We all learned a lot and liked sharing our ideas with one another. Then we ate eco-friendly popsicles. I plan to do the event again next year. Go kids! 77

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.

#### **ANNUAL COMPETITION**

#### **Enter our Winter Cover Contest!**

If you would like to see your artwork on the cover of The Week Junior, now is your chance! At right is the winning cover from our 2020 contest. The drawing form and consent form that are needed to enter can be found at kids.theweekjunior.com/activities. Entries will be judged on creativity, originality, and how well they reflect the winter theme and The Week Junior. Be sure your artwork is in color! When you're done, have a parent fill out the consent form. The consent form and a digital image of your artwork should be emailed to covercontest@theweekjunior.com. The deadline to apply is November 4!



THE WEEK T'S YOUR TUR

Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.

# Your turn



### YOUR PHOTOS We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"We made the Pull-Apart Apple Bread, and it was so good!" Micah, 12, Michigan "I love reading *The Week Junior* outside in the sunshine." Josephine, 8, California





"The Week Junior is really fun to read. I enjoy the Around the World section and the recipes. This subscription is the best gift that I have ever gotten."

Rebekah, 12, Florida

#### POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjuniorus on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7–12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: If you could speak to one animal, which one would you choose?

"I would speak to a dog to know how they perceive the world."

"Birds, so they could teach me how to fly."

"A cat, because I have five."

"A dog. I always want to know what's or their mind."

In the big debate, we asked: Should gas-powered leaf blowers be banned?

"Yes, it is too expensive and bad for the environment."

"No, but people should not use them if they don't really need to."

"Yes, as there are many good alternatives."

"I don't think they need to be banned, but we should make them more energy efficient."

Now tell us: If you could visit any planet, which one would you choose and why?

# Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's Name: Mrs. Moses
School: Park City Day School

"Mrs. Moses is a loving art teacher who always takes care of us during classes and helps us whenever we need help. In class she will play some music for us to listen to, and she has good music taste. If she is not helping another student, then she is talking to us and telling us some stories from her outdoor education trips with other grades."

Tyler, 13, Utah

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week!
Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com.

#### Puzzle answers (from page 26)

Take five gavel bench judge trial stand

All the same
1. postage
2. octagon
3. Instagram
4. cottage

5. stagger

B O T S W A N A C U B A A A G U B A A A G U B A A A G U B A A A A G U B A A A G U B A A A G U B A A A G U B A A A G U B A G U B A A G U B A A G U B A G U



**Quiz answers** (from page 30)

1 a) Cat 2 Jezero Crater 3 b) Thomas Jefferson 4 True 5 Dime Novel Kids 6 b) 1995 7 False. There are seven. 8 c) Texas 9 Mississippi 10 True 11 a) Basking sharks 12 c) 650 13 New York City 14 False. She is sent to the School for Evil. 15 a) Cheetos

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

# **Quiz of the week**

How much of this week's news can you remember?

**1** What type of pet got his own set of school photos at Drury Primary School in the UK? a) Cat b) Dog c) Rabbit **2** What is the name of the crater where NASA's Perseverance rover is drilling for rock samples? **3** Which President is said to have brought the first macaroni machine to the US? a) John Adams b) Thomas Jefferson c) James Madison b **4** True or false? More than 1,900 species in Australia are at risk of extinction. False 5InthebookIslandofSpies, what do the main characters call their detective agency? **6** When did the Hubble Space Telescope take the first image of the "Pillars of Creation"? a) 1990 b) 1995 c) 1998 **7** True or false? There are five men in the Korean pop group BTS. False 8 In NCAA volleyball, Iowa State University upset which previously undefeated team?



**9** A statue of Emmett Till was recently unveiled in what state?

**10** True or false? Sound vibrations can travel well through false teeth.

True False

**11** Scientists recently discovered that which species of shark swims in circles to find a mate?

a) Basking sharks

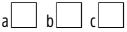
b) Tiger sharks

c) Whale sharks

a b c

**12** Actor and wrestler John Cena has fulfilled how many wishes through the Make-A-Wish Foundation?

a) 450 b) 550 c) 650



**13** Which US city recently announced that, beginning in 2023, it will have a public school holiday for the Hindu celebration of Diwali?

**14** True or false? In the movie The SchoolforGoodandEvil,Sophieissent to the School for Good.

True	False	

**15** A giant statue of a hand holding what type of snack food will tour cities in Canada?

a) Cheetos b) Doritos c) Goldfish

a	b	C	





# THE WEEK

a) Louisville b) Nebraska c) Texas

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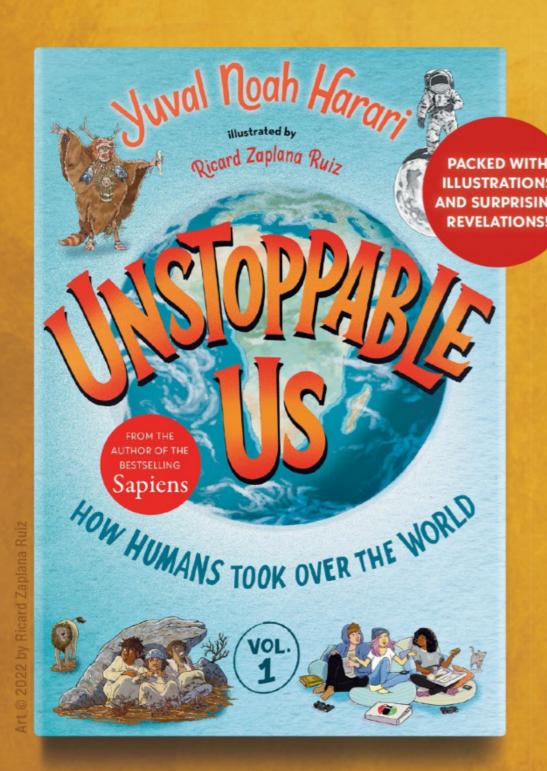
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# How Did Humans Become "UNSTOPPABLE"?





Even though we'll never outrun a lion, humans are pretty impressive—and the most dominant species on the planet. But the journey to becoming unstoppable wasn't easy. In fact, it's

one of the strangest tales you'll ever hear! From learning to make fire to landing on the moon, explore the epic true story of humankind with this new action-packed series!

